



MANAGEMENT REPORT

DATE: October 18, 2016
AUTHOR: Corinne McConchie – *Manager, Collection Management and Access*
MEETING DATE: October 27, 2016
TO: NVDPL Board
FROM: Jacqueline van Dyk – *Director, Library Services*
SUBJECT: **NON-TRADITIONAL CIRCULATING COLLECTIONS AND LIBRARIES
—FOR DISCUSSION**

SUMMARY

NVDPL may wish to entertain a circulating collection of anti-theft engraving devices that could be borrowed by residents.

PURPOSE

This report is for discussion.

DISCUSSION

Trustee, Mike Little has approached Director, Jacqueline van Dyk with the idea that the Library could play a role in helping community members to property-mark their valuable items with a portable engraver. Such a service is currently available via the community policing office. Through that office, people can bring in their bikes and other valuables and have their driver's license engraved on them. This kind of identification makes reselling the item harder and recovering the item easier. He reports, they *"have been offering the service for years but relatively few people have participated. Some of the resistance may be because you have to bring your item in, or because most of the community doesn't have a regular relationship with community policing offices."*

There could be a role for the Library to contribute to this endeavour in the community. NVDPL has good recognition across the District, with three service points, a circulation mechanism that could be used for these devices, and thousands of regular visitors. If the Library were to acquire the portable engravers and lend them out, the service could receive good visibility.

Trustee Little has mentioned he would be happy to fundraise to acquire the kits.

A partnership with Community Policing Office and RCMP would be good for NVDPL's presence in the community.

BACKGROUND ON NON-TRADITIONAL CIRCULATING COLLECTIONS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

In recent years, public libraries have been venturing into lending items beyond the traditional formats of books and audiovisual materials. Depending on the community served and other considerations like cost, storage requirements and collection upkeep, public libraries across North America have experimented with lending collections of the following interesting things (and often those collections are launched with donated resources so as not to impinge on the regular collections budgets):

- Tools (fishing rods, etc.)
- Kitchen tools (cake pans, blenders)
- Musical instruments
- Seed libraries
- Toys, puppets
- Telescopes
- Portable hotspot devices
- Museum passes

At NVDPL, the Library has loaned e-readers but otherwise has stayed with books and related audiovisual formats.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board endorse staff to explore Trustee Mike Little's suggestion of an engraver lending project.

FINAL REMARKS

This program would be unique, of benefit to residents, provide a valuable service, provide partnering opportunity with RCMP and Community Policing, and allow the Library to experiment with non-traditional collection management.